

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 NSC-05
INR-07 CIAE-00 ACDA-10 EB-07 IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00
H-02 PRS-01 /070 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS:RJSLOTT:RF

APPROVED BY PM/SAS - DJJAMES

DOD/DSAA - COL. MARTIN (INFO)

NEA/ARP - MR. GERLACH

NEA/RA - COL. HOBBS

-----081518Z 079486 /40 L

R 070516Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

INFO SECDEF

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS STATE 104757

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:MASS, SA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED FMS SALE OF AMMUNITION TO SAG RE
MECHANIZED BRIGADES

REF: STATE 072947

1. RE PARA 5 REFTTEL, CONGRESS WAS PROVIDED FORMAL
CERTIFICATION ON MAY 6 REGARDING THE PROPOSED LETTER OF
OFFER FOR THE FMS SALE OF AMMUNITION FOR MAJOR MILITARY
EQUIPMENT PREVIOUSLY SOLD TO THE SAG TO MECHANIZE INFANTRY
BRIGADES. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 36(B) OF THE ARMS
EXPORT CONTROL ACT, AS AMENDED, THE QUOTE LETTER OF OFFER
SHALL NOT BE ISSUED IF THE CONGRESS, WITHIN THIRTY
CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIVING SUCH CERTIFICATION, ADOPTS A
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION STATING THAT IT OBJECTS TO THE PRO-
POSED SALE UNQUOTE.

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2. FOLLOWING ARE THE PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS OF AN
UNCLASSIFIED POLICY JUSTIFICATION WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE
CERTIFICATION TO THE CONGRESS: QTE IN 1975 SAUDI ARABIA
INITIATED A PROGRAM TO MECHANIZE INFANTRY BRIGADES AND
PURCHASED SMALL ARMS, 75 AND 90MM GUNS, AND 105 AND 155MM
HOWITZERS FROM THE UNITED STATES. IN 1976 SAUDI ARABIA

ORDERED FROM THE UNITED STATES TANKS, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS, VULCAN GUNS, AND TOW MISSILES FOR THESE MECHANIZED BRIGADES. CONGRESS WAS INFORMED OF THESE

PURCHASES BETWEEN FEBRUARY AND SEPTEMBER 1976 (TRANSMITTALS 76-28, 76-29, 76-30 AND 7T-39).

THIS PROPOSED LETTER OF OFFER PROVIDES FOR THE SALE TO SAUDI ARABIA OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF AMMUNITION AND FUZES FOR US-ORIGIN WEAPONS IN THE INVENTORY OF THE MECHANIZED INFANTRY BRIGADES. THIS LETTER OF OFFER IS NOW VALUED AT \$53.7 MILLION; EARLIER IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT THIS PROPOSED SALE WOULD TOTAL \$80 MILLION. THIS REDUCTION RESULTED FROM THE SAUDIS ELIMINATING FROM THEIR ORIGINAL REQUEST SEVERAL TYPES OF AMMUNITION NOT AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME.

IN 1974 THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA PURCHASED \$78.0 MILLION AND IN 1975 \$26.9 MILLION WORTH OF SIMILAR AMMUNITION FROM THE UNITED STATES FOR USE BY THE SAUDI GROUND FORCES INCLUDING THE BRIGADES WHICH ARE NOW BEING MODERNIZED. CONGRESS WAS INFORMED OF THE LATTER PURCHASE IN SEPTEMBER 1975 (TRANSMITTAL 75-33).

THIS PROPOSED SALE WOULD PROVIDE THE GOVERNMENT OF SAUDI ARABIA WITH ITS ESTIMATED REQUIREMENT FOR TRAINING AND RESERVE STOCKAGE FOR THE VARIOUS TYPES OF AMMUNITION NEEDED FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT ALREADY SOLD TO THAT GOVERNMENT BY THE UNITED STATES. WE HAVE EXAMINED THESE UNCLASSIFIED

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REQUIREMENTS AND HAVE DETERMINED THAT THE QUANTITIES AND TYPES OF AMMUNITION BEING REQUESTED BY THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT ARE REASONABLE. UNQUOTE

3. AS APPROPRIATE, EMBASSY MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENT OF THIS CERTIFICATION TO THE CONGRESS.

4. EMBASSY WILL BE ADVISED IF ANY ACTION IS TAKEN BY CONGRESS WITHIN NEXT THIRTY DAYS OBJECTING TO THIS PROPOSED SALE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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